REMARKS

The Office Action sets forth a requirement for restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between the following inventions:

I.   Claims 1-8 and 11-15, drawn to a camera including a communicator, classified in class 348, subclass 207; and

II.   Claims 9 and 10, drawn to a camera including a mode selection, classified in class 348, subclass 220.

Applicants elect invention I without traverse. Claims 1-8 and 11-22 read on the elected invention

The specification has been revised to correct grammatical errors. No new matter has been added.

Claim 11 has been revised to improve its grammatical form and to clarify that the data of the taken image can be stored in a memory. The amendments to claim 11 are not required by any prior art and are unrelated to the patentability of the invention.

Claims 9 and 10, directed to the non-elected invention, have been cancelled without prejudice to the filing of a divisional patent application. Claims 16-22, which are directed to the elected invention, have been added in order to provide a more adequate basis for protection of the invention.

CONCLUSION

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment cancels two claims and adds seven claims, thereby increasing the total number of claims from 15 to 20. This Amendment does not
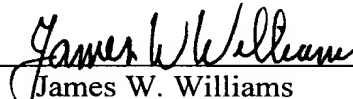
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increase the number of independent claims (now claims 1, 11, and 16), and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The following is a marked-up version of the changes to the specification and claims which are being made in the attached response to the Office Action dated December 13, 2001.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Delete the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 7, and ending at page 6, line 17:

According to still another aspect of the present invention, a camera which stores data of a taken image and outputs the stored image data to an external apparatus through a detachably attached connection device comprises a connector for attaching the connection device, a detector for detecting whether the connection device is attached to the connector or not, and a controller for permitting the image data to be outputted through the connector when it is detected that the connection device is attached, and inhibiting the image data from being outputted through the connector when it is detected that the [connector] connection device is not attached to the connector.

Delete the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 18, and ending at page 6, line 24:

The output of the image data to the external apparatus is permitted only when the connection device is attached to the connector. Therefore, image data can be transmitted to the external apparatus at any given time while the connection device is attached, and when the connection device is not attached, [i.e.] i.e., when the camera is not connected to the external apparatus, the meaningless operation of outputting the image data is inhibited.

Delete the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 21, and ending at page 12, line 4:

The control section 10 is capable of generating two kinds of image data: image data having a large number of pixels; and image data having a small number of pixels, and switches therebetween according to the printing density, [i.e.]i.e., the resolution of the printer 30. A concrete relationship between the printing density of the printer 30 and the image data generated by the control section 10 is shown in Fig. 4. When the printing density of the printer 30 is 600 dots per inch (dpi) or more, the control section 10 generates image data of 640 pixels wide and 480 pixels long, and when the printing density is less than 600 dpi, the control section 10 generates image data of 320 pixels wide and 240 pixels long.

Delete the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 21, and ending at page 16, line 1:

The camera 2 also [have] has the three operation modes: the photographing mode in which images are taken and the taken images are stored in a memory card; the reproduction mode in which images stored in a memory card are reproduced and displayed on the LCD 23; and the printing mode in which images stored in a memory card are transmitted to the printer 30 and printed onto paper by the printer 30. Of these modes, the photographing mode and the reproduction mode are switched between by the user's manual operation of the switches S1 and S2.

Delete the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 15, and ending at page 17, line 22:

The control section 10a decides the operation mode from among the photographing mode, the reproduction mode and the printing mode in accordance with signals from the switches S1 and S2 of the operation section 14 and the switch S4 of the connection section 15a. A relationship between the switches S1, S2 and S4 and the operation modes is shown in Fig. 9. When the switch S4 is OFF, [i.e.] i.e., when the cable 31 is not attached to the connector 27, the setting of the switches S1 and S2 is enabled.

Delete the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 2, and ending at page 18, line 8:

When the switch S4 is ON, [i.e.] i.e., when the cable 31 is attached to the connector 27 and the printer 30 is connected to the camera 2, the camera 2 is placed in the printing mode irrespective of whether the switches S1 and S2 are ON or OFF. When the switch S4 is returned from ON to OFF, [i.e.] i.e., when the cable 31 is removed from the connector 27 and the printer 30 is disconnected from the camera 2, the setting of the switches S1 and S2 is again enabled.

Delete the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 5, and ending at page 20, line 16:

Further, since transmission of image signals is permitted only when the cable is attached, it is ensured that images are avoided from being transmitted under a condition where the camera is not connected to the printer, [i.e.] i.e., under a condition where transmission of images is meaningless. Consequently, it is unnecessary for the user to wait for the meaningless transmission operation to be finished, so that the operability improves, particularly, when a multiplicity of images are transmitted. Moreover, when the camera is configured so that the stored image signals are automatically erased after read out for printing, there is no possibility that the images are erased which are not actually printed because the printer is not connected.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 9 and 10 have been cancelled.

11.   (Once Amended) A camera which [stores] can store data of a taken image in a memory and [outputs] can output the stored image data to an external apparatus through a detachably [attached] attachable connection device, said camera comprising:

a connector for attaching said connection device;

a detector for detecting whether or not said connection device is attached to

said connector [or not]; and

a controller for permitting the image data to be outputted through said connector when [it is detected] said detector detects that said connection device is attached to said connector, and for inhibiting the image data from being outputted through said connector when [it is detected] said detector detects that said [connector] connection device is not attached to said connector.

Claims 16-22 have been added.

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